Continuation Sheet (PTOL-303)

Continuation of 11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

Applicants' arguments are limited to the proposed claim amendments and therefore are moot, as the proposed amendment has not been entered for the reasons noted above.

Therefore, the claims remain rejected for reasons of record.

The proposed color drawings submitted for acceptance as formal drawings would raise new issues with regard to Figure 3, as the specification refers to Figures 3d-f as having features labeled E, PR, R, F, and by arrowheads and asterisks (specification at page 7). The drawings submitted after final do not show these features in Figures 3d-f, as the originally-filed Figures 3d-f have been re-labeled as Figures 3h-j. Accordingly, the drawings have not been entered.

At page 8 of the response, with regard to the objection to the drawings, Applicants state that, in the previous Office Action, the Examiner objected to the black and white formal drawings, but that Applicants previously filed color formal drawings. Applicants assert that it is unclear what the Examiner is relying on and what the basis for the objections is. Applicants are referred to page 2, paragraph 6, of the Office Action of 10/18/07, which states that "[t]he color drawings have been received and are suitable for examination purposes. However, the formal black and white drawings are objected to for failure to show the relevant features described in the specification." Color drawings are not accepted as formal drawings unless the requirements for acceptance of color drawings have been met. Color photographs and color drawings are acceptable only for examination purposes unless a petition filed under 37 CFR 1.84(a)(2) is granted permitting their use as acceptable drawings. Applicant's petition filed April 18, 2008 has been received, but the color drawings have not been entered for the reasons noted above.